

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Free Ranger-Guided Walks and Kayaking Trips Offered at Riverfront Park

Rocky Shoals Spider Lily Trips Kick off April 22

The City of Columbia's Parks Rangers are celebrating the spring season with free kayaking trips to view the Rocky Shoals Spider Lily and nature walks at Riverfront Park, the Columbia Parks & Recreation Department announced.

The following activities are free and open to the public:

## **April Ranger Program Schedule**

Spring Fever Walks | Tuesday Evening Series: April 17 & 24 at 6 pm Meet on top of the Canal Head gates at Riverfront Park (north end), 4122 River Drive

Join Park Rangers for a look at the emergent plants and trees along the Broad river and visit the Fish Passage to talk about the annual migration of the American Shad.

Spring Birding Walk | Sunday, April 15, 1 pm Meet on top of the Canal Head gates at Riverfront Park (north end), 4122 River Drive

In this guided walk, you'll take a look around to find the different bird species that are passing through the area. Bring binoculars and field guides if you have them.

Sundays with Lily: Rocky Shoals Spider Lily Kayak Trips | Sundays: April 22 & 29 and May 6, 13, 20 & 27 at 1 pm, 2 pm, 3 pm and 4 pm (By reservation only)

Meet at Riverfront Park, 312 Laurel Street

The Columbia Parks & Recreation Department and Columbia Water have partnered to host free hourly kayak trips down the Broad River for guests to view the Rocky Shoals Spider Lilies.

There are only 50 places where the Rocky Shoals Spider Lily plants remain, with one being in Columbia on the Broad River at Riverfront Park. The plants are native to Southeastern Rivers.

To reserve a seat, visit **Sundays with Lily**. Space is limited to 13 people per trip.

Guests should arrive an half hour prior to your reservation to walk to the launch site and complete a waiver.

If water levels are too high, the kayaking trip will be substituted with a guided walk.

Guests should not bring any valuables that cannot withstand immersion. Guests should be prepared to get wet, and wear sturdy sandals (no flip flops) and use sun protection. **Children must be at least six years old and be able to appropriately fit into an approved personal floatation device.** 

Guests are encouraged to dress comfortably, bring binoculars and field guides as well as any essentials like water, sunscreen, insect repellent and sturdy walking footwear when participating in the ranger-guided programs.

For more information, contact the Parks & Recreation Department at 803-545-3100.